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Comments: I have been a longtime mountain biker and a proponent of access for bikes on most public land. I don't however agree with allowing motorized or E Bikes on designated non-motorized trails. They have an electric motor and are therefore motorized vehicles.

While there are obviously situations where some people would gain greater access to public land by permitting E Bikes on these non motorized trails, I don't think the incidence is high enough to justify crossing this slippery line. E Bikes are easier to pedal, so they would allow certain individuals to travel easier and farther into more remote areas, but they still require significant physical ability, and would not open these areas to those with genuine disabilities.

As E bikes are quite a bit heavier than a conventional bike and have limited battery range, they might also enable an inexperienced or imprudent rider to run out of power or otherwise get in over their head far from a trailhead, leading to an expensive rescue or worse.

While a thoughtless mountain biker can cause trail damage and disrupt other trail users, just as a rude hiker or equestrian can damage the trail experience of others, I believe a motorized bike increases this possibility and might damage public perception of non-motorized mountain bikers and diminish access for all bikers.

At this point it is sometimes difficult to tell the difference between E bikes and traditional non-motorized bicycles, but there is at least a somewhat apparent distinction. If even class 1 bikes are allowed on non-motorized trails the subtle distinction between classes will be lost on most trail users and those tasked with enforcing the rules.

While I'm fine with E bikes on mixed use motorized trails, I think it is opening Pandoras box to grant access to any bike with a motor on non-motorized trails.